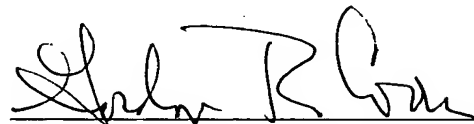


REMARKS

~~Claims 1-60 currently are pending. Claims 7, 10-12, 15, 18, 21, 24-27, 30-32, 34-~~  
36, 38-39, 41-42, 44, 46, 48, 50-53 and 56-58 have been amended to remove their multiple  
dependency. Claim 61 has been cancelled as not being in proper U.S. patent law format.  
(The amendments to the claims are shown on the attached sheets.) No new matter has been  
introduced by way of these amendments.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the  
prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned  
attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon R. Coons, Reg. No. 20821  
One of the Attorneys for Applicant(s)  
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.  
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900  
180 North Stetson  
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780  
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)  
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: December 7, 2001